

Sound waters for the important naval Shipyard in Bremerton. It was named for Admiral John L. Worden, who was the commander of the battleship *Monitor* in the famous Civil War battle with the Confederate ship *Merrimac*. The Fort was later designated as the headquarters for the harbor defenses for Puget Sound, and it was fortified with heavy gun batteries and defensive structures. During World War II, the Fort served as home to the Army's 14th Coast Artillery Regiment and the Washington National Guard's 248th Regiment.

Fort Worden's military role diminished in the 1940's, and it was decommissioned as an active military post in 1953, though various limited Navy and Army functions continued for some years after. It later served as home to a Treatment Center for juvenile delinquents, operated by the State of Washington, before it was finally acquired by the State and turned into a State Park in 1973. The old Fort buildings have been transformed into a Conference Center, and the site offers ample opportunity for recreation and camping. Having been listed on the National Register of Historic Places, it now serves as one of the most picturesque and stately locations in the State of Washington. In fact, I am sure many of my colleagues can recall the views of the Fort's classic old white buildings in the feature movie "An Officer and a Gentleman," as Fort Worden served as the film's backdrop in 1981.

Today, Fort Worden remains a gathering place for people from across the Pacific Northwest to come for educational, cultural and arts programs, as well as recreational activities. It is a link to our past; a reminder of the state's very early role in the defense of our nation. I am proud that Fort Worden will be a partner with the Library of Congress on the Veterans History Project, honoring America's war veterans. And I am proud that so much of the military history of the Fort has been preserved, including the Commanding Officers Quarters Museum and the Pacific Coast Artillery Museum.

On the 100th Birthday of Fort Worden, I believe it is appropriate.

Mr. Speaker, to recognize the historical significance of this facility and its ongoing role in the Pacific Northwest.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 131, I was unavoidably detained with other matters. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS REGARDING THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill Expressing the Sense of the Con-

gress regarding the International Criminal Court.

On Monday, May 6, President George W. Bush directed his representative to inform United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan that the United States "does not intend to become a party to the treaty [the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC)]." President Bush is to be highly commended for renouncing the U.S. signature on the ICC treaty, a bold first step toward protecting American servicemembers and citizens from the possibility of unwarranted and politically-motivated persecutions.

By taking this action, President Bush has put the international community on notice that the United States will defend its sovereignty and citizens from this global court. The Bush Administration correctly pointed out that the ICC has unchecked power that contradicts our Constitution and its system of checks and balances; that the Court is "open for exploitation and politically-motivated prosecutions;" and that "the ICC asserts jurisdiction over citizens of states that have not ratified the treaty"—which seriously threatens American sovereignty.

I applaud President Bush in making it perfectly clear that the United States wants no part of the ICC. He faced enormous pressure from the international community to do otherwise, yet he did the right thing.

But this is only a first step. As Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld stated this week, upon our renunciation of the ICC: "Unfortunately, the ICC will not respect the U.S. decision to stay out of the treaty. To the contrary, the ICC provisions claim the authority to detain and try American citizens—U.S. soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines, as well as current and future officials—even though the United States has not given its consent to be bound by the treaty." Secretary Rumsfeld added, "When the ICC treaty enters into force this summer, U.S. citizens will be exposed to the risk of prosecution by a court that is unaccountable to the American people, and that has no obligation to respect the Constitutional rights of our citizens."

Undersecretary of State Marc Grossman, explaining the president's decision to withdraw from the ICC, made the following critical point: "Notwithstanding our disagreements with the Rome Treaty, the United States respects the decision of those nations who have chosen to join the ICC, but they in turn must respect our decision *not* to join the ICC or place our citizens under the jurisdiction of the court." There is no indication that Undersecretary Grossman's message has been received.

Therefore, this legislation makes it clear that Congress should take all steps necessary to grant appropriate authority to the president to defend the American people—servicemember and citizen alike—from the threat of arrest, prosecution and conviction by the International Criminal Court.

I am introducing this legislation to also to commend President Bush for his courageous move, to assure the president that this body supports his action to protect the Constitution and American sovereignty. We have all taken an oath to protect and defend the Constitution, and we should stand with the president.

I rise, finally, to encourage the president to remain steadfast in his intention of protecting American servicemembers and citizens from the unchecked power of the International

Criminal Court. This is only the beginning, however, there is much more to be done.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 127, H.R. 2911, Designating the Federal Building located at 5100 Paint Branch Parkway in College Park, Maryland, as the Harvey W. Wiley Federal Building on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 404. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 128, H. Con. Res. 271, Expressing the Sense of Congress Supporting the National Importance of Health Care Coverage Month. Had I been present, I would have enthusiastically voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 129, On Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 414, Providing for the disposition of H. J. Res. 84, Disapproval of the Actions taken by the President Under Sec. 203 of the Trade Act. Had I been present, I would have enthusiastically voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 130, on H. Res. 414, Providing for the disposition of H. J. Res. 84, Disapproval of the Actions taken by the President Under Sec. 203 of the Trade Act. Had I been present, I would have enthusiastically voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 131, on Agreeing to the Senate Amendments on H.R. 3525, the Enhanced Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act. Had I been present, I would have enthusiastically voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 132, H.J. Res. 87, On Consideration of the Resolution, the Yucca Mountain Repository Site Approval Act. Had I been present, I would have enthusiastically voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 133, H.J. Res. 87, the Yucca Mountain Repository Site Approval Act. Had I been present, I would have enthusiastically voted "yea."

CONGRATULATING THE MEN AND WOMEN OF VALLEY BRONZE AND STEWART SPRINGS, LTD.

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the men and women of Valley Bronze and Stewart Springs, Ltd. for their success in receiving the contract to adorn the World War II monument on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. Valley Bronze is a foundry located in Joseph, Oregon in Wallowa County in my congressional district, a pristine sliver of the United States whose citizens live and breathe the heritage of the American West.

The successful bid award to participate in the construction of the World War II memorial

was the product of a creative collaboration between David and Christine Jackman, the owners of Valley Bronze, and Janelle Stewart, the owner of Stewart Springs, Ltd., a drafting company also located in Joseph.

When it is complete, the "Freedom Wall" of the World War II memorial will feature 4,123 gold-plated stars cast by Valley Bronze, each of which will represent 100 American lives lost in the service of our nation during that terrible conflict. Fifty-six pillars will surround the memorial to represent every American state and territory, each of which will be decorated with bronze wreaths made in Joseph. Anchoring the flagpoles at the ceremonial entrance to the monument will be pedestals made by Valley Bronze, and monumental bas relief medallions representing the "victory medallions" given to World War II veterans will be embedded in the floor of the archways at each end of the memorial. Finally, four water fountains and 900 feet of decorative drainage grate will encircle the monument. I have no doubt, Mr. Speaker, that each of the decorations that will adorn the memorial will be cast with the care and precision to befit a monument in honor of America's patriot dead.

Mr. Speaker, awarding this bid to Valley Bronze is a reflection of the beauty of their work and the quality of their craftsmanship. It is fitting that the materials to build this monument to our nation's heroes will be brought together from across the American continent, just as America's sons and daughters came from cities and towns across this great land to answer their nation's call.

The national monument to the veterans of World War II will stand for generations as an enduring testament to the heroism and sacrifice of the men and women who have rightly been called the Greatest Generation. Visitors from across the United States and indeed the rest of the world will journey to our nation's capital to see this monument and pay their own private tribute to the legions of American soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines who fought and died to prevent the spread of tyranny. They will do so enjoying the freedom won in part by the exertions of Oregonians, just as the beauty they admire was crafted by Oregonians' hands.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Valley Bronze and Stewart Springs, Ltd. for their outstanding success. The first-rate quality of their work was chosen as the finest in the land, and I am proud to represent them and their patriotic community in the House of Representatives.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING DANIEL KEITH ROBINSON

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Daniel Robinson has devoted himself to serving others through his membership in the Boy Scouts of America; and

Whereas, Daniel Robinson has shared his time and talent with the community in which he resides; and

Whereas, Daniel Robinson has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Daniel Robinson must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award; and

Therefore, I join with Troop 510, the residents of Muskingum County, and the entire 18th Congressional District in congratulating Daniel Robinson as he received the Eagle Scout Award.

RECOGNIZING DR. GEORGE KIDD, JR. FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO TIFFIN UNIVERSITY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. George Kidd, Jr., upon his retirement as President of Tiffin University. Dr. Kidd has distinguished himself as one of the nation's outstanding educators, university administrators, and visionaries of higher education.

When Dr. Kidd became Tiffin University's President in April, 1981, the college's enrollment of 375 students occupied three academic buildings. The academic focus was its two-year associate degree program. The school's operating budget had produced seven consecutive annual deficits.

Dr. Kidd's legacy at Tiffin University is a transformed institution of higher knowledge, an innovative curriculum, a distinguished faculty, vibrant campus and a balanced operating budget.

Student enrollment now exceeds 1,600 with a primary focus shifted to the four-year bachelors degree programs. The university facilities now include eleven buildings, including three dormitories, a dining commons, a student center, gymnasium and 38 acres of athletic playing fields.

Dr. Kidd's tireless efforts on behalf of Tiffin University are matched only by his many selfless contributions to the Tiffin community. He has generously given of his time to local community service organizations, including Seneca County United Way, the Chamber of Commerce, Mercy Hospital, and many others.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. George Kidd's contributions to our country are as numerous as the many bright futures he has touched as an educator and a mentor. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him and his loving and equally talented wife, Dianne, good health and our very best wishes.

HORMONE DISRUPTION RESEARCH ACT OF 2002

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of the Hormone Disruption Research Act of 2002.

Arctic polar bears show high concentrations of certain synthetic compounds in their tissues. Whales in the world's oceans carry PCBs and other contaminants at concentrations which cause developmental defects in humans.

U.S. streams and groundwater show widespread contamination with chemicals, dioxins, and antibiotics. Alligators in Florida's lakes suffer from reproductive problems that appear to be associated with chronic chemical contamination. New studies have made a persuasive case that contaminants were in part or wholly responsible for the loss of the lake trout and herring in the Great Lakes many decades ago.

Rates of infertility, the incidence of testicular cancer in young men, Parkinson's disease, endometriosis, childhood diabetes, and asthma have risen dramatically since 1970.

What does this all mean? Are there connections between rising levels of chemicals in the environment and increasing rates of certain disorders in humans?

In many cases, we simply don't know. We do not have the scientific information that would allow us to draw solid conclusions. But a growing body of research suggests that there is indeed a connection between certain chemicals and human health.

In recent decades, scientists have begun to recognize and define the hazard posed by some chemicals to the human hormone (or endocrine) system. By definition, hormone disrupting chemicals interfere with the normal activity of hormones within the body. Some chemicals mimic natural hormones and send false messages. Other synthetic compounds block hormonal signals and prevent the proper action from taking place. Still others cause disruption by preventing the synthesis of the body's own hormones, or by accelerating their breakdown and excretion. Whatever the mechanism, the bottom line is the same: Any chemical that interferes directly or indirectly with hormones can scramble vital messages, derail development, and undermine health.

We are only now learning that the effects of hormone disruptors may affect more than one generation. Though adults may not show symptoms of exposure themselves, they may pass the "Imprint," or hormonal effects of exposure, on to their children. In those cases, it is the children whose development suffers. Since 1970, childhood cancers, learning disabilities, hyperactivity, autism, juvenile diabetes, early puberty, early testicular cancer, and infertility have increased significantly both in the United States and around the world. There is growing evidence to suggest that hormone disruptors play an important role in all of these disorders.

Today I am proud to introduce the Hormone Disruption Research Act of 2002. This legislation directs the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) to conduct a major research program on hormone disruption. In addition, it requires NIEHS to report to the public every two years on the extent to which hormone disruption by chemicals poses a threat to human health and the environment. The bill authorizes \$100 million per year for five years for this critically important program.

To date, federal research on hormone disruption has been scattershot and underfunded, even as evidence about hormone disruption has grown. The research program authorized through the legislation will enable NIEHS to gather solid data about the dangers posed by some chemicals and the mechanisms through which they act. With this information in hand, we can make sensible, informed decisions and policies about our own and our children's health and well-being.